

Appln No. 10/004,246

Amdt date February 4, 2005

Reply to Office action of November 17, 2004

**REMARKS/ARGUMENTS**

Claims 14-34, 36, and 84-97 are pending. Claims 14, 16, and 36 are amended.

Claims 84-97 are allowed. Claim 16 is rejected to as being dependent upon a rejected claim base but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Claim 16 is rewritten in independent form including all the limitations of the base claim 14 and any intervening claims. Accordingly allowance of the rewritten claim 16 is respectfully requested.

Claims 14, 15, 17-34 and 36 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Trimberger (US 6,023,564). Applicants submit that all of the claims currently pending in this application are patentably distinguishable over the cited references, and reconsideration and allowance of this application are respectfully requested.

Amended independent claim 14 includes, among other limitations, "decoding a second instruction that references the configuration register," and "executing the configuration in the configuration register referenced by the second instruction, and the second instruction in parallel;" and amended independent claim 36 includes, among other limitations, "means for decoding a second instruction and the configuration, the second instruction referencing the configuration register containing the configuration," and "means for executing the second instruction and the configuration in parallel." Trimberger does not disclose the above limitations.

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Rather, Trimberger describes a flash reconfigurable programmable logic device including an instruction memory, a sequencer, and a configuration store. (FIGs. 1 and 2). The programmable logic device of Trimberger is "based on the characterization of a programmable logic device as having a first plane of configurable logic elements 101a, including for example configurable logic blocks, configurable interconnect structures, and configurable input/output structures, and a second plane of configuration memory 101b included in the configuration store 101, and for example the configuration select logic 102. During execution of a particular process, one of the configuration words is selected for configuring the configurable logic elements of the programmable logic device 100." (Col. 4, line 63 to col. 5, line 6). Trimberger does not teach, nor does it suggest executing the second instruction and the configuration in parallel. Consequently, amended independent claims 14 and 36 are not anticipated by Trimberger.

In short, independent claims 14 and 36 define a novel and unobvious invention over the cited references. Dependent claims 15-34 are dependent from claim 14 and therefore include all the limitations of their respective independent claim and additional limitations therein. Accordingly, these claims are also allowable over the cited references, as being dependent from allowable independent claims and for the additional limitations they include therein.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that this application is now in condition

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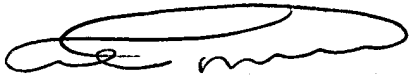
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for allowance, and accordingly, reconsideration and allowance  
are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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RRT/clv